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Hypnum eugyrium Schimp. Rather frequent on stones in mountain brooks, Roan Mt., Tenn.; Swannanoa Mts.; Woodfin Falls.

Hypnum dilatatum Wils. Stone in brook, Woodfin Creek, upper course in Jones Knob.

Brachythecium rutabulum (L.) B. & S. Wet place in wood, upper altitude of Grandfather Mt. Grout²¹ gives the southern limit as New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

Brachythecium rivulare B. & S. Stones in brooks, north of Linville Gap; Woodfin Falls. Grout²² gives the southern limit as Virginia.

Eurhynchium rusciforme (Neck.) Milde. Stones in brooks, White Rock Mt., Tenn.; Woodfin Falls.

Cirriphyllum Boscii (Schwaegr.) Grout. Ground in woods, near roads, sterile, Swannanoa Mts. The species was not noted at higher altitudes.

Hylocomium triquetrum (L.) B. & S. Ground in woods, summit region, Jones Knob.

ITHACA, N. Y.

LITTLE JOURNEYS INTO MOSSLAND

V.—THE OLD GENUS HYPNUM

GEORGE B. KAISER

One enters the realm of hypnaceous mosses with somewhat the sensation of a timid wayfarer who, for the first time, ventures into an unexplored region, where every step is fraught with misgiving, along a confusing route which may at last lead him deep into an impenetrable jungle. At least, such were our own impressions when we first had to do with what we often characterized as "pesky Hypnums," breathing anathemas upon them and frequently relegating the specimens to the shelf for future study.

Beautiful though these pleurocarpous mosses may be, the genus *Hypnum*, as it used to be understood, with the one hundred and ninety-five North American species enumerated and described in the Lesquereux and James Manual, ever presented difficulties for beginners. We mentally placed it in rather the position of *Carex*, among the sedges, and complicated Compositae, among the higher flowering plants. Only recently has the genus been split into many sub-genera, leaving under the name of *Hypnum* only the single species, *Hypnum Schreberi*,—that charming yellowish-green moss which forms such rich and deep glistening cushions in many a moist corner in and at the edge of our woods.

But after all, according to the French proverb, it is only the first step which costs, and, when the threshold is once fairly crossed, where is the science that does not reveal itself quite simply to the student? One by one the species of these

²¹ Mem. Torr. Bot. Club, VI, 177. 1897.

²² Op. cit., 182.

truly attractive bryophytes became familiar to us and, today, each species in its proper place, macroscopically, microscopically, is surely impressed upon our eye and mind,—æsthetic concomitants of the forests which they adorn.

Is there a moss lover who has not seen and admired the decaying logs of our north woods endearingly spread with the soft feathery mats of *Ptilium crista-castrensis*—the Knight's Plume—whose color varies from pale primrose green to wonderfully delicate tints of fawn and russet? Many of us recall great boulders in the mountain woods, upholstered with abundant mats of the exquisite *Hylocomium proliferum* gracefully curved and dissected like the fronds of tiny ferns—plumes to deck the sylvan fairies! I have seen beds of that before-mentioned *Hypnum Schreberi* near Profile House with single plants over a foot in length. Then, those pale green or yellow cushions of *Drepanocladus uncinatus*, with slender hooked and plicate leaves—how memory of them bears us back to the fairest of woodsy scenes among our beloved White Mountains, Adirondacks, and Catskills! And we can personally picture a lovely dell near Franconia, New Hampshire—we called it the Dell of the Nine Muses, because a group of nine graceful white birch trees grew beside it—where *Rhytidiadelphus triquetrus* has never appeared in deeper, softer green luxuriance, and there the fairies of a certainty dance on Midsummer Eve!

These are some of the larger and more conspicuous of our hypnaceous mosses, but scores of other species abound and, when once known, we wonder why they seemed so difficult to determine. *Campylium chrysophyllum*, with squarrose leaves, and of a decided golden color, is at home in moist fields, especially where lime is present, and, its tiny brother, *Campylium hispidulum*, may be looked for on the base of forest trees, where its delicate light green tracery well repays examination under the hand-lens. A frequent companion of the larger *Campylium* is *Stereodon arcuatus*, usually palish or yellowish green, with clearly secund leaves and with branches decumbent or erect. *Stereodon imponens*, irregularly pinnate with curved leaves showing opaque brownish basal cells, is to be found on decaying wood or soil in almost every mountain forest, and, with a more southerly range, is the robust, handsome moss with leaves neatly plaited like braids of hair—*Stereodon curvifolius*. Perhaps no pleurocarpous moss is commoner in our mountains than *Stereodon reptilis*, which is covered with just-matured fruit in August, forming close, thin mats on soil, rock, and logs, but, take care that you differentiate it from *Amblystegiella adnata*, which is somewhat smaller, closer to the substratum, and microscopically with different leaf cells.

The Brachythecia, too, present a series of beautiful forms, which are moisture-loving. In early spring you will see at the edge of our streams patches of the brightest green imaginable which consist of *Bryhnia novae-angliae*, characterized by decurrent leaves with twisted apices and microscopically dense often papillose cells. At this season the banks and rocks are covered with the fresh growth of *Brachythecium plumosum* with frequent sporophytes of dark brown or even blackish color. I might lead you to perpendicular rocks where the robust tufts of *Brachythecium rutabulum* appear in glossy yellow-green profusion and to many a mountain brook filled with *Brachythecium rivulare*, the leaves showing

clearly enlarged basal cells which later in the year, when the water is lower, will form in the bed deep carpets of luxuriant green. Thick tufts of *Hygrohypnum ochraceum* are mingled with the latter species and, in deep ravines, the dark strands of *Eurynchium rusciforme* harmonize well with the forest shade, with ends swaying in the swish of clear, cool waters, where *Fontinalis* delights to dwell.

However, these are but glimpses of the world of feather mosses and the best advice we know is to grasp the key to field and woods and hasten away, no matter what the season, leaving dark care behind, to seek forest and streamside, to taste the refreshment of sweet waters in the fulness of the truest pleasure it is given man to enjoy; where you may study the genus *Hypnum*, in the best way of all: at first hand, close to Nature's heart.

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**A PRELIMINARY REPORT, WITH NOTES, ON THE LICHENS FOUND
NEAR THE CINCHONA BOTANICAL STATION,
JAMAICA, BRITISH WEST INDIES**

CHARLES C. PLITT

During June and July of 1919, it was my good fortune to spend a vacation at the Government Laboratory, on the summit of Cinchona Hill, on the island of Jamaica. This Hill has an altitude of 5000 feet, the laboratory and gardens, and residence, occupy its summit.¹ In our party were Professor Duncan S. Johnson of The Johns Hopkins University, through whose efforts the trip was arranged and made a success, Mr. William Seifriz, Mr. Louis Pessin, and the writer, members of the Botanical Seminar of the University. The four of us were comfortably housed at the residence, "Belle Vue Cottage," said to be the highest dwelling of any pretensions in the West Indies.² Not far away were our servants' quarters; to the rear of us, and at higher elevation were the laboratories; around us and covering many acres were the gardens with their numerous trees, shrubs, and herbs, grown here for experimental purposes. Among them were *Casuarina*, *Grevillea*, *Callitris*, *Callistemon*, gigantic *Eucalyptus* trees of several species, *Cordyline*, *Gordonia*, and dozens of other plants of interest to the botanist.

As I am interested in the Lichens, it was to them that I turned my attention. Scarcely a day passed that I did not go out to collect specimens. It was not long before my table was simply packed with material in various stages of preparation, some dry, and ready to be sent home, some almost so, some just collected. As soon as collected, I tried as far as possible to assort my material, and, if I could decide upon its generic name, this was appended. I thus soon had piles of *Cladonia*, of *Stictia*, of *Usnea*, of *Leptogium*, of *Graphis*, of *Lecanora*, of *Parmelia*, of

¹ For a detailed account of this interesting place, see, Johnson, "The Cinchona Botanical Station," *Popular Science Monthly*, XII, 1914, and, I, 1915.

² Johnson, *Ibid.*, p. 524.